



Africa Regional Situation Report

Situation Report #8 | 02 July 2020

Situation Overview

COVID-19 Cases: 206,881

COVID-19 Deaths: 4,265

The virus continues to spread with a linear daily increment as most of the countries in East, Southern and West Africa relax their confinement measures (schools and markets are reopening, public gatherings are resuming). World Vision is concerned by the increasing risk of a wider transmission and appeals for the intensification of prevention measures and support to health systems for mass testing and surveillance.

World Vision is also concerned by the reported increase in gender-based violence as the economic challenges set in and appeals to national governments and donors to protect ongoing humanitarian and development assistance for the most vulnerable as there is a growing risk that other health issues (malaria, HIV/AIDS, immunization of children) may be de-prioritised.

The COVID-19 induced economic challenges have come at a time when the region is at the crossroads of multiple disasters ranging from conflict, climate shocks, pests (locust invasion, Fall Army Worm), and social challenges, such as high unemployment and endemic poverty that put millions in need of humanitarian assistance. World Vision appeals for increased investments to support critical lifesaving interventions and recovery initiatives.

(COVID-19 case and death figures for 26 countries. Source:WHO, 28 June 2020)

World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in 26 countries in Africa, especially in places where children and families are most vulnerable.



People Reached:

 **22,401,485**

 **Men 6,331,432**  **Women 6,886,157**

 **Children 9,183,896**

 **Boys 4,434,724**  **Girls 4,749,172**

(Based on figures as of 26 June 2020)

Key Messages



World Vision is concerned about the impact that the COVID-19 health crisis will have on the poorest and most vulnerable, and the risk it poses to already stretched basic social services and pre-existing high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition. This is especially the case amongst refugee and internally displaced populations.



We are active on the ground and scaling up our prevention and response work across Africa, including in fragile contexts. The coronavirus response comes on top of climate change effects such as recurrent drought, torrential floods and locust invasions – all destroying crops and livelihoods. Response work includes preventing loss of progress made towards the global Sustainable Development Goals.



World Vision urges the world to focus on the most vulnerable children, especially those living in communities with low access or weak health systems, and those already battling sickness such as tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS and malaria. They must not be left behind and funding for COVID-19 resources must not be diverted from their treatment, care and support.



World Vision is concerned with the increased incidences of violence against children in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, and warns of the long-term risk of increased child marriage and child labour. We urge Governments to ensure continued functioning of child-friendly reporting mechanisms such as SOS hotlines to enable children's protection.



RESPONSE GOAL

To limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its impact on vulnerable children and families

Strategic Objectives



1. Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of disease



3. Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



2. Strengthen health systems and workers



4. Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of COVID-19



10,383,861

People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours



1,316,206

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



1,882,333

Community members provided with preventive materials



614,222

Handwashing supplies distributed



115,636

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



64,436

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



60,746

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



29,936

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



54,711

Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures

(Based on figures as of 26 June 2020)

OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



63,812

Community health workers trained and supported



58,012

Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)



1,776,121

Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities



1,578,220

Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities



4,466

Medical facilities assisted



101,717

Disinfectant kits distributed to health care facilities



13,945

People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces



198

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set-up



3,722

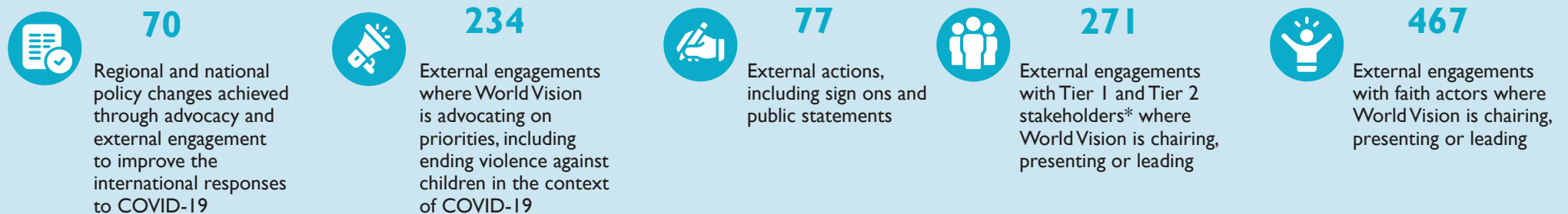
People provided with transportation support

(Based on figures as of 26 June 2020)

OBJECTIVE 3: Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through child protection, education, food security, and livelihoods



OBJECTIVE 4: Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected



*Examples of Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders include WFP, WHO, Global Fund, UNICEF, UNHRC, UNOCHA, and national governments

(Based on figures as of 26 June 2020)

BURUNDI

- Distributed hand washing kits to 975 schools, 942 churches and 13 prisons.

ETHIOPIA

- Conducted a rapid assessment in four regions, Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. The findings of the assessment will provide input into the preparation of learning packs for disadvantaged children.
- **Disseminated COVID-19 preventive messages through faith leaders during market days.**

KENYA

- Issued a joint media statement on COVID-19 and submitted a memorandum to the National COVID-19 Education Emergency Response Committee on the re-opening of schools. This was done as part of the Joining Forces Alliance for Children in Kenya, whose membership includes many reputable NGOs in Kenya.
- **Trained 710 faith leaders in Psychosocial First Aid. The faith leaders who were trained in Changanwe Area Programme in Mombasa county have mobilised resources and distributed food and masks to families in need. Faith leaders in Katito Area Programme in Kisumu county sensitized parents on the need to seek medical treatment for child morbidities even in the face of COVID-19.**

RWANDA

- Conducted five radio talk shows focusing on the role of caregivers and faith leaders in addressing spiritual nurture of children impacted by COVID-19. The talk

shows were hosted by Christian media houses, and the panelists included church leaders and national children's ministry coordinators from Rwanda Union Mission (Seventh Day Adventist Church), Pentecostal Church of Rwanda, Salt and Light International (Church Umbrella) and Association Mwana Ukundwa – a community partner.

SOMALIA

- Reached more than 11,000 people with hygiene promotion and COVID-19 awareness messages in South West State and Jubaland.
- Supported various Government ministries in charge of religious affairs to translate COVID-19 key messages in a manner that resonates with the community.
- **Following training on World Vision's Channels of Hope, faith leaders continue to debunk various myths on COVID-19 and discourage stigma.**

SOUTH SUDAN

- **Reached more than 800,000 people with COVID-19 awareness messages through more than 500 faith leaders in four World Vision operational zones in 17 locations across South Sudan.**
- Reached people in remote parts of the country through radio programmes initiated by faith leaders.

SUDAN

- Engaged 27 faith leaders to disseminate COVID-19 preventive messages in the community. Pastor Boutros al Nour the chairperson of the Blue Nile Council of Churches, is one of the 27 faith leaders who is sharing COVID-19 messages with his congregants at Hai al Shatti Church in Damazin locality, the capital of Blue Nile state.

TANZANIA

- Produced a video featuring a child calling for protection of children's rights, specifically the rights of the girl child during the COVID-19 pandemic. The video was shared with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children for review and input and the final version will be aired on television and posted on social media.
- **Submitted COVID-19 messages for faith leaders to Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) sub-group for review. The RCCE sub-group will organise a meeting with officials from the Ministry of Health National Technical Committee, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Case Management and General Secretaries of Faith based umbrella organisations for further review.**

UGANDA

- Informed the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Services statement on provision of child friendly services during COVID-19 pandemic. The Minister's statement reached more than 50,000 people through print and digital media.
- Organised a multi-sectoral E-conference on provision of child friendly services during lockdown. Children participated during the conference which was aired on NBS Television reaching more than 2.6 million people on Twitter and more than 480,000 people through Facebook.
- **Held a meeting with seven members of the Inter-Religious Council of Uganda (IRCU) to discuss a national level collaboration to address the impact of COVID-19 among children.**
- Disseminated COVID-19 preventive messages through more than 400 faith leaders during home visits. The faith leaders were also involved in sensitising communities on violence against children, through community radio education programmes.



ANGOLA

- Supported a nation-wide campaign to promote SOS child helpline which will be used to report child protection issues as well as COVID-19 concerns. The campaign is aired on television and runs several times a day.
- Disseminated child protection messages to families through faith leaders.**
- Supporting faith leaders to put in place COVID-19 preventive measures ahead of the opening of churches on 24 June, 2020.**

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

- Trained 279 teachers and education officials in child protection and COVID-19. The training was conducted with support from the Australian NGO Cooperation Programme.
- World Vision's National Director in DRC, Anne-Marie Connor participated in a one-hour virtual event alongside World Vision Chief Executive Officer in Canada, Michael Messenger, to discuss the impact of COVID-19 in fragile contexts. The participants during the event included government officials and major donors.
- In discussions with Vlerick Business School in Belgium to conduct two rapid studies on *'How perceptions, rumours, conspiracy theories, and the resulting resistance to change affect life opportunities for children, as well as the efforts to save lives and transform communities.'* The second assessment is on *'How the cycle of crises stifled long-term outlook to life and replaced visions with very short-term outlooks to life.'*
- Engaged the National Army representatives, child protection police and other local state services to address violence against children during COVID-19 in Kinsantu and Kintanu.

- Participated in a joint radio programme to sensitise communities on violence against children.
- Trained 60 faith leaders from Beni and Mabalako health zones, in World Vision's Channels of Hope approach to engage communities, disseminate Ebola and COVID-19 messages on infection, prevention and control. Five faith leaders who were previously trained, conducted practical sessions.**
- Trained 50 faith leaders, community mobilisers and World Vision staff on child protection in times of COVID-19 and Ebola.**

ESWATINI

- Issued a public statement on the Day of the African Child through The Coordinating Assembly of Non-Governmental Organizations, and called on the Government and other partners to ensure children access justice during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Trained more than 30 church leaders in the Celebrating Families approach of the COVID-19 response to ensure children have a conducive environment at home.**

LESOTHO

- Reached more than 400 people through awareness creation on COVID-19 and gender-based violence during community dialogues. This was done in six Area Programmes in four districts in Lesotho.
- Sensitised 20 Citizens Voice & Action (CVA) group members in Sekameng Area Programme on CVA for COVID-19, prevention and response mechanisms.
- Made a presentation on the Government's set standards to minimise the spread of COVID-19, in health, education, child protection and gender sectors. This was done as part of the COVID-19 District Emergency Command Centre for Mafeteng district.

MALAWI

- Reached more than 8,000 people through dissemination of COVID-19 messages by faith leaders.**
- Issued a public statement on the Day of the African Child, calling for protection of children from child labour. The statement was published in the media.
- Drilled eleven new boreholes and rehabilitated 18 boreholes reaching more than 5,000 beneficiaries, since the beginning of the response.

MOZAMBIQUE

- Submitted position papers on the Government's Economic and Social Plan and the State Budget for 2020, which included COVID-19 recommendations. The position papers will feed into the ongoing discussions ahead of the Government's next round of COVID-19 measures.
- Rolled out a joint COVID-19 messaging campaign in partnership with mosques in Maputo and its outskirts. The mosques are disseminating COVID-19 prevention and child protection messages during their call for prayer.**

SOUTH AFRICA

- Co-hosted a webinar on digital safety during the child protection week in collaboration with the Films and Publications Board. Three children participated and shared their online experiences and challenges. The Government's Deputy Minister of Communications took part in the webinar.
- Facilitated the participation of four children in the consultations held a day before the Day of the African child, which focused on 'Access to Child Friendly Justice'.
- Created awareness on child protection issues in Thaba Nchu town during the child protection week. Pastor Ngoni and World Vision staff rallied the community to end violence against children and women.**
- Reached more than 200,000 people through Radio Pulpit where the discussions focused on child protection.**

*The country highlights in bold feature our work with faith leaders.

ZAMBIA

- Participated in four radio programmes across three districts in Northern Zambia. The programmes focused on the effects of COVID-19 on children and the discussions were moderated by children. The programmes were live-streamed on Facebook spurring public interest and engagement.
- Worked with children to raise awareness on COVID-19 and children's rights.
- **Trained 24 faith leaders on World Vision's Channels of Hope approach to gender in Sinazongwe Area Programme.**

- Adjusted the COVID-19 response plans to include interventions targeting schools ahead of the re-opening.
- Rehabilitated 40 boreholes and trained 185 Water Point committees on borehole maintenance under the UNICEF funded drought response project, since the beginning of the response.
- Drilled four boreholes and rehabilitated 43 boreholes in Matapala Refugee settlement under the UNICEF Refugee programme, since the beginning of the response.

ZIMBABWE

- Published a statement in the Daily News (a national newspaper), with key messages on the need to protect children during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Aired a programme on the national radio station featuring key advocacy messages on the creation of child friendly justice system for vulnerable children.
- **Reached 341 faith leaders with COVID-19 awareness and prevention messages, which they in-turn shared with their congregants and communities.**



West Africa Region

During the lean period (June to August), the West Africa Region is set to face a complex humanitarian crisis including COVID-19 and its impact, underlying food/nutrition crisis and locust invasion. According to WFP, 40 million people will be in need of assistance during the next six months. World Vision is calling for enhanced investment in preparation and anticipatory actions.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

- **Reached more than 8,000 beneficiaries including 844 religious leaders through World Vision's Channels of Hope approach.**
- Followed up on the purchase of COVID-19 medical supplies worth more than US\$ 780,000. These supplies will be donated to the Ministry of Health.
- Identified additional beneficiaries for the July food and cash voucher distribution in Bozoum, Bambari, Bouar, Paoua and Bangui.
- Participated in the bi-weekly meetings with the COVID-19 National Committee and weekly meetings with the World Food Programme and International Non-Governmental Organisation coordination.

- Trained 20 Community Health Workers on epidemiological surveillance, how to protect themselves and how to take care of people suffering from COVID-19 as well as the preventive measures.
- Supported 321 people in quarantine and isolation centres through provision of food.

GHANA

- Advocated and influenced the re-direction of the national focus of the Day of the African child, to highlight the impact of COVID-19 on children. World Vision used this platform to sensitise people on child protection issues through television stations including Joy Prime, Joynews, Pan African TV, Kingdom TV and Anglican TV. The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection shared World Vision's key messages on violence against children.
- **Trained 39 faith leaders on World Vision's faith and development COVID-19 response approach in Fanteakwa Area Programme. The training equipped the leaders to sensitise their congregants on COVID-19 safety protocols and preventive behaviours.**

- **Reached more than 1,250 people with COVID-19 preventive messages through Aaron, a member of the Local Council of Churches, who conducted live worship sessions in the streets of Dome, Fanteakwa South District.**

MALI

- Launched the Hidden Hero global mobilization campaign on 16 June 2020.
- Shared the petition to support the *It Takes a World Campaign* with a children's and youth organisation, OEJ (Organisation d'Enfants et Jeunes).
- Met with eight Government health officials and eight social development service representatives in World Vision intervention areas to share the response plan and reinforce coordination of activities.
- Purchased more than 80,000 hand washing kits for families of World Vision sponsored children and vulnerable households including Internally Displaced People
- Reached more than 27,700 community members through COVID-19 sensitisation activities conducted by community health volunteers.

CHAD

- Engaged communities to sign an online petition to protect children and vulnerable groups from the aftershocks of COVID-19 and to ensure strengthening of the quality of social services.

*The country highlights in bold feature our work with faith leaders.

MAURITANIA

- Trained six religious leaders to support the COVID-19 response through sensitisation of communities.
- Purchased hand washing kits with funding from the AIM health project in Boghe.
- Identified 160 vulnerable households in Kaedi. Identification of vulnerable households in Nouakchott cluster is ongoing.

NIGER

- Conducted a regional campaign in Zinder region targeting faith, traditional, administrative and youth leaders, urging them to sensitise the community on the COVID-19 pandemic. The campaign was conducted in collaboration with the national mediator.

SENEGAL

- Participated in the celebration of the Day of the African Child under the leadership of the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection. World Vision National Director in Senegal, Antoinette Habinshuti was featured as a guest speaker on RTS1 a national television station. She highlighted the need for the world to act to ensure children are protected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SIERRA LEONE

- Engaged with the Government to discuss the extension of the radio teaching programme to reach the most vulnerable communities.
- Finalised a Memorandum of Understanding between World Vision and the Inter-Religious Council.



Ethiopia: World Vision in collaboration with USAID has been providing food aid to 624,009 food insecure households, internally-displaced people and returnees since 2018. With the outbreak of COVID-19, World Vision is implementing a double rationing system to support families impacted by containment measures. ©World Vision

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